



STATE OF WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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October 1, 2003

Kathleen B. Davis, Program Management Director  
Department of Transportation  
Highways and Local Programs  
PO Box 47390  
Olympia, WA. 98504-7390

Dear Ms. Davis:

This letter officially transmits the 2003 Highway Urban Area (HUA) population estimates.

HUA populations are consistent with the electronic boundaries provided by the Department of Transportation. These electronic boundaries are offset 75 feet from street centerlines so that entire bounding roadways can be shown as either in or out of the HUA.

The population for Vashon Island's HUA is an exception. Vashon Island's population is developed on the basis of roadway boundaries and excludes the 75-foot offset.

Population estimates in each of the HUAs were made by determining the proportion of each HUA population to the appropriate county population reported by the 2000 Census, then applying this proportion to the 2003 estimate of the population in these counties.

If you have any questions about these estimates, please contact me at 360-902-0589.

Sincerely,

Lawrence Weisser, Demographer  
Forecasting Division

Enclosures

cc: Rick Smith, Department of Transportation  
Elizabeth Robbins, Department of Transportation  
Ralph Wilhelmi, Department of Transportation  
Eric Meale, Department of Transportation  
Bob Moorhead, Transportation Improvement Board  
Dave Whitcher, County Road Administration Board

**The Population of New and Revised Highway Urban Areas (HUA)  
(HUA Based on Census 2000 Counts)<sup>1</sup>**

<b>Areas</b>		<b>2000<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>2003</b>
Adams	Othello	5,850	5,910
Asotin	Lewiston-Clarkston (Part)	19,439	19,485
Benton	Kennewick-Richland-Pasco (Part)	119,718	127,385
Chelan	Wenatchee-East Wenatchee (Part)	33,506	34,150
Clallam	Port Angeles	21,492	21,865
Clark	Vancouver-Camas-Battle Ground	289,174	311,840
	Hockinson	4,761	5,135
Cowlitz	Longview-Kelso	60,575	61,845
Douglas	Wenatchee-East Wenatchee (Part)	23,208	23,920
Franklin	Richland-Kennewick-Pasco (Part)	36,798	39,970
Grant	Ephrata	6,897	7,120
	Moses Lake	22,728	23,460
	Quincy	5,016	5,175
Grays Harbor	Aberdeen-Hoquiam-Cosmopolis	29,816	28,615
Island	Camano Island	6,603	6,830
	Oak Harbor	22,136	22,890
Jefferson	Port Townsend	8,622	8,755
King	Seattle-Tacoma-Everett (Part)	1,662,827	1,703,275
	Vashon Island	5,130	5,255
Kitsap	Bremerton-Bainbridge Island-Port Orchard	185,008	189,020
	Seattle-Tacoma-Everett (Part)	768	785
Kittitas	Ellensburg	15,526	16,380
Lewis	Centralia-Chehalis	27,190	27,905
Mason	Shelton	8,781	8,920
Pierce	Seattle-Tacoma-Everett (Part)	657,409	688,255
Skagit	Anacortes	14,861	15,400
	Mount Vernon-Burlington-Sedro Woolley	52,588	54,490
Snohomish	Seattle-Tacoma-Everett (Part)	526,460	553,805
Spokane	Cheney	8,924	9,150
	Spokane-Spokane Valley	339,500	348,160
Thurston	Olympia-Lacey-Tumwater	146,161	151,410
Walla Walla	Kennewick-Richland-Pasco (Part)	2,416	2,445
	Walla Walla-College Place	42,632	43,110
Whatcom	Bellingham	84,283	88,160
	Ferndale	12,385	12,955
	Lynden	9,385	9,815
Whitman	Pullman	24,682	24,840
Yakima	Grandview	8,791	8,925
	Sunnyside	14,842	15,070
	Toppenish	8,912	9,050
	Yakima-Selah-Union Gap	117,333	119,135
<b>Total</b>		<b>4,693,133</b>	<b>4,860,065</b>

<sup>1</sup>HUA boundaries are redefined on the basis of decennial census counts. Based on the Census 2000 counts five new areas were formed and five existing areas were combined with other HUAs. Most other areas were redefined.

<sup>2</sup>The populations of the new and revised HUAs shown in the 2000 column above are the Census 2000 counts. These were not the official HUA populations for 2000. The official populations of HUAs published in 2000 had boundaries based on the 1990 census and were developed from population estimates.

## Highway Urban Area (HUA) Boundaries and Population Notes

1. The basic methodology for the 2003 HUA populations is as follows:
  - Determine the proportion each HUA is to the appropriate county population reported in the 2000 census.
  - Then apply each proportion to the 2003 population estimate of these counties.
  - All the U.S. Bureau of the Census corrections were made to the county populations through April 1, 2003.
  - An adjustment was made to the Grays Harbor County estimate due to the addition of a correctional facility with over 1,900 people outside the Aberdeen-Hoquiam-Cosmopolis HUA.
2. HUA populations are consistent with the electronic boundaries provided by the Department of Transportation. These electronic boundaries are offset 75 feet from street centerlines so that entire bounding roadways can be shown as either in or out of the Highway Urban area.
3. The population for Vashon Island's HUA is an exception to the rule in note 2. The Vashon Island population is developed on the basis of roadway boundaries and excludes the 75-foot offset.
4. Some entire cities, such as Ephrata, Toppenish, and Quincy are HUAs. The 2000 HUA populations for these and similar cities may not match their 2000 census population. This is because the HUA boundaries are offset 75 feet from road centerlines and these boundary differences result in the population differences.
5. HUA populations may be revised due to boundary changes. The Highway Urban Area Boundary Review Team determines boundary changes. Municipal annexations are one source of boundary change. Other changes may be made at the request of the Department of Transportation or local governments due to special considerations after the initial boundaries are established.